

Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) update

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Emergency Unemployment Compensation -- February 23, 2012.

The Virginia Employment Commission is responsible for the administration of Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC), which is addressed in legislation signed into law on February 23, 2012.

This legislation does not currently affect the level of benefits offered under EUC Tiers I, II and III. Regular Unemployment Insurance (UI) provides for up to 26 weeks of benefits. The various Tiers of EUC provide for a potential 47 weeks of additional benefits (73 weeks total UI and EUC combined). Secondly, this law does not provide for any additional benefits for those that had already exhausted eligibility under the UI and EUC programs.

As of June 2012, the law has provisions that will determine if Virginia is able to continue offering benefits under Tiers II and III. We will not be able to make that determination until we get closer to that date. This is because the ability to continue to offer benefits under Tiers II and III will depend upon the State's total unemployment rate (TUR).

Assuming Virginia is still authorized to provide benefits under all three Tiers of EUC, the law will reduce the total number of weeks available under EUC in September 2012. This would result in a reduction in the maximum number of weeks being available from 73 to 54 (UI and EUC combined).

Finally, there would be no more benefits paid under any Tier of EUC after the week ending December 29, 2012. After that date, Virginia would only be able to provide benefits under the regular UI program (up to 26 weeks).

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